



*Office of the United States Attorney  
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Tuesday, October 9, 2007

For Information Contact Public Affairs  
SANDY RAYNOR  
Telephone: (602) 514-7625  
Cell: (602) 525-2681

## **MEXICAN NATIONAL SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR SMUGGLING 4 YEAR-OLD BOY INTO THE U.S.**

TUCSON, Ariz. – Janeth Trujillo-Verdugo, 19, of Tucson, Ariz., was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge Raner C. Collins to 15 months in federal prison and three years of supervised release. Trujillo had pleaded guilty on July 25, 2007, to conspiracy to transport an illegal alien for profit.

On May 8, 2007, Trujillo presented herself for admission into the U.S. at the Nogales, Ariz. port of entry. She was accompanied by a four-year-old boy and claimed that he was her neighbor's son and that they were going shopping in Nogales, Ariz. Trujillo presented a valid laser visa for herself and what appeared to be an altered visa for the boy. Further investigation revealed that the child was a Mexican citizen and that Trujillo was to receive \$100 to smuggle the boy into the U.S. She planned to take the child to a store in Nogales, Ariz., where she was to turn him over to an unknown individual waiting in a gray van.

U.S. Attorney Daniel G. Knauss stated that "the smuggling and transportation of undocumented minors into and within the United States is a serious problem. These children are vulnerable to neglect and abuse when they are transported by smugglers they do not know, and then handed off to other strangers, all for the smuggler's monetary profit."

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection in Nogales, Ariz. The prosecutions were handled by Raquel Arellano, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-07-1063-TUC-RCC  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-210(Trujillo-Verdugo)

###